

# Senior Secondary Education



Senior secondary education is designed to cultivate physically and mentally sound citizens, laying the foundation for academic research and the acquisition of professional knowledge in later years. Senior secondary schools can be divided into “general senior secondary schools,” “skill-based senior secondary schools,” “comprehensive senior secondary schools,” and “specialized senior secondary schools.” Students who graduate from junior high school or have an equivalent education level can gain admission to senior secondary school through methods such as exam-free entrance, specialty enrollment. 160 credits are required for graduation.

## A Promote Advanced Science Education and Cultivation of Talent in the Science

**1** Taiwan has achieved outstanding results in the international Mathematics and Science Olympiad. Domestic mathematics and science competitions are frequently held for senior secondary school students, and supports are continued to offer to junior high and elementary school education project in science, cultivation programs for senior secondary school scientific talents and domestic and international exhibitions to stimulate interest and learning in the sciences.

### 2 Key objectives for the year 2016:

- i / Continue training students for the Math and Science Olympiads, and organize similar domestic competitions in mathematics and information technology for junior high school and senior secondary school students.
- ii / Continue supporting secondary and elementary education projects in science and cultivation programs for scientific talent.
- iii / Set up science programs in senior secondary schools and monitor the effectiveness of the programs.
- iv / Set up the “2017 Classes Préparatoires aux Grandes Ecoles” selective exams.

## B Bring Second Foreign Language Education into Practice and Improve Students’ International Awareness:

**1** The main goals of the fourth phase 5-year plan is to “Improve Second Foreign Language Education in Secondary Schools” include the following:

- i / Encouraging schools to adopt the plan and offering them support.
- ii / Strengthening the promotion mechanism for the second foreign language education system.
- iii / Creating a second foreign language learning environment.
- iv / Improving the teacher recruitment system.

**2** In SY1999, a total of 22,623 high schools students enrolled in 648 second foreign language classes, a number which ballooned

to 334,396 students with 115,464 classes by SY2014, which is 14.78 times the number in SY1999. In SY2014, eleven universities, colleges and junior colleges applied to offer 37 advanced placement foreign language classes for high school students.

### 3 Key points for the year 2014~2016:

Continue encouraging schools to teach more foreign languages and offer more foreign language classes in order to cultivate talent and increase international competitiveness in the area of languages ; meanwhile, continuing to encourage universities to offer classes for second foreign language in order to cultivate more talents for second languages, and boosting Taiwan’s international competitiveness.





## C Practical Technical Program and Cooperative Education

### Practical Technical Program

These programs impart practical skills to students who choose the technical arts curriculum in junior high school, providing them with the means to enter the job market and secure employment. Instruction is provided via day classes or evening classes, and students are eligible for graduation after completing 150 credits in 3 years.

### Cooperative Education (Alternative Classes)

These classes were first implemented in 1969. Students study general subjects and theory at school while receiving hands-on training in the workplace. This approach was extremely popular in past decades. Now, in response to the changing environment, the Ministry of

Education has published “Implementation Guidelines for Cooperative Education in Vocational High Schools,” in 2004, changing the hour-based system into a credit-based system. Students can graduate after completing 150 credits in 3 years.

In order to enhance cooperative education and ensure the rights and privileges of students in the cooperative education programs, the Ministry of Education established “the Act of the Cooperative Education Implementation in Senior High Schools and the Protection of Student Participants’ Right,” which was approved, promulgated and enacted by the President on January 2, 2013 with Hua-Tsung (1)-Yi-Tzu No. 10100290761.



## Steadily Promote 12-year Basic Education



**A** The Ministry of Education has long been planning for the launch of 12-year Basic Education, and since 2008 has been implementing the 12-year Basic Education Precursor Program.

**C** Key objectives for the year 2015~2016:

Promote the “Implementation Plan for 12-year Basic Education” approved by the Executive Yuan and ensure that it is completely and effectively carried out. Additionally, the policies will be continuously discussed and improved. III

**B** To allow junior high school education to become more adaptive, creative, active, superior and quality-driven, and to enhance the quality of senior secondary education, President Ma Ying-jeou made the announcement during his New Year’s speech for the ROC’s Centennial Celebration of the initiation of 12-year Basic Education.





## Look in and out: Student's Self- portrait Won International Competition

Chen, Zhen-Xiang  
Sophomore, Fu-Hsin  
Trade and Arts School



A self-portrait is a medium to reflect one's inner side. Chen, Zhen-Xiang, then a freshman at Fu-Hsin Trade and Arts School, further made it a bridge for him to see a broader world, as his self-portrait won him the Gold Prize at Art For Asia 2015.

Running into the fifth edition this year, the competition was founded by Kyoto University of Art and Design and Tohoku University of Art and Design. It recruits self-portrait created through means including sketch, painting, animation, and photograph.

The delineation and expression of Chen's winning sketch conveys a melancholy atmosphere, which he described it echoed his status of mind as being gloomy. "I would like to portray what's inside my heart, so I chose a picture that has strong contrast on light and shadow," he explained.

Winning the first prize upon his first-ever participation in the competition was out of doubt a huge surprise to Chen. "It's an awesome experience," he said. The international event also broadened his horizon by seeing other entries presented using varied skills and in different styles. Some of them impressed Chen and encouraged him to continue pursuing excellence.

"Without enough training, I'll not be able to fully convey my ideas, therefore I always wanted to learn more," said Chen. Not only international

peers' works drove Chen to pursue advancement, he also recognized the great talents shown by friends and schoolmates. "It's a great joy to exchange ideas with them, and I wish one day I can equal them in terms of skills," said the diligent student. III



## Students Propose a Win- win Solution for a Better Future

Shen, Yu-Ru, Senior, National  
Pingtung Senior High School  
He, Cheng-Han, Senior,  
National Pingtung Senior High  
School



Students from National Pingtung Senior High School striving to provide a win-win solution to economic development and environment protection won the top prize as a group at the 2015 Taiwan Geolympiad.

Under the instruction of Yuan, Lung-Mao, Shen, Yu-Ru and He, Cheng-Han focused their competition topic on the land utilization of Kenting National Park Recreation Zone 1. The site that slated for a hotel construction project happens to be where lodges land crabs of the most varied species in Taiwan.

Their studies covered land crabs' growth traits and distribution in Kenting area; the formation of their inhabitation in Houwan; geographically uniqueness; economic development of Houwan and other substitutional solutions. Under the circumstances, the team tried to bring forth the most feasible plans. One of which is to change Houwan inhabit into marine reserve.

Diligent preparation and careful data verification, and fully comprehension were considered by He as the key to excel other entries. Both of them agreed that what they learned during the research process weighed more than the award. "What's more is the continuous effort and the wish to do something for our motherland," said He.

Shen cited his favorite comic and saying that "the most important thing will show up sooner than your target during the pursuit." Seeing other excellent entries also inspired them to different research topic and approaches, said He. "This reminds me to inspect my research from a broader and various perspectives in the future," he said.

Yuan examined the current condition of geography education in Taiwan, and suggested a more balanced teaching resource distribution and a deeper and broader introduction in guiding students to the essence of the subject. III

